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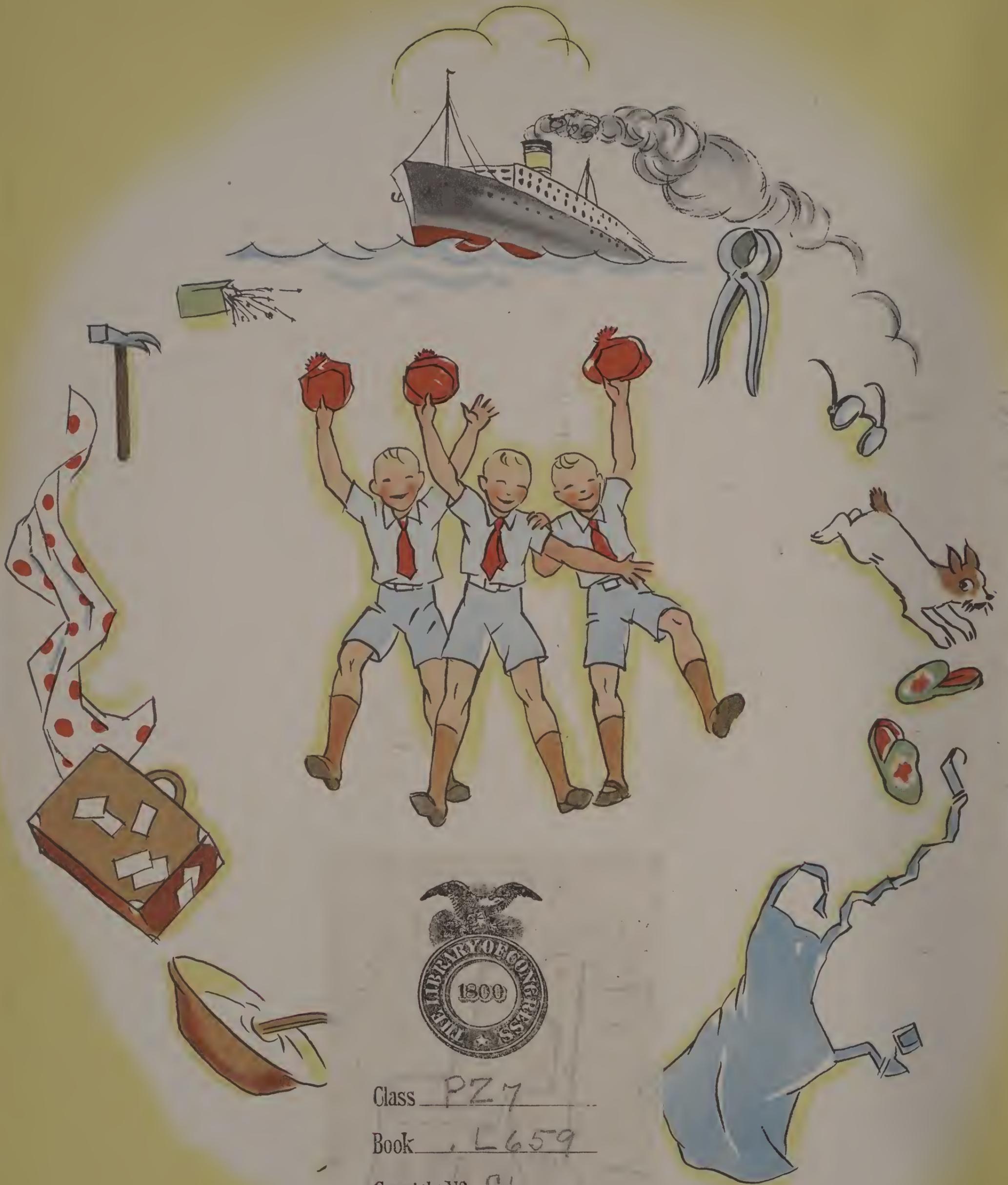
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SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR, AND THE BIG SURPRISE

By

Maj Lindman



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THE SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR BOOKS

By

Maj Lindman

SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR AND THE RED SHOES
SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR AND THE GINGERBREAD
SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR AND THE MAGIC HORSE
SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR AND THE BUTTERED BREAD
SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR AND THE YELLOW SLED
SNIPP, SNAPP, SNURR AND THE BIG SURPRISE

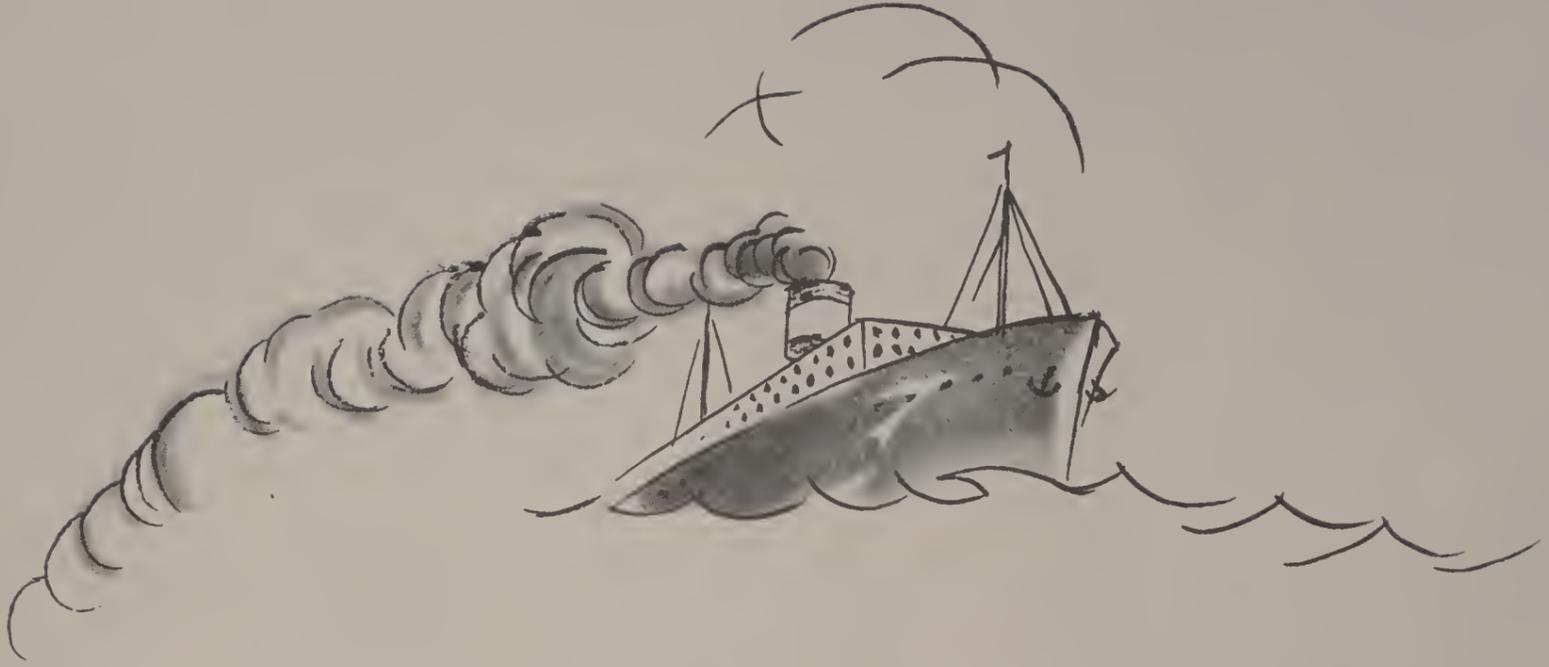
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Snipp, Snapp, and Snurr took Mother to the boat.

SNIPP, SNAPP, AND SNURR, three little boys who lived in Sweden, were taking Mother to the boat.

For weeks she had planned a visit with an old friend.

Only last evening Father brought home her ticket and gave it to her, just before he himself left on a business trip.

Snipp, Snapp, and Snurr were left in the care of Nanny who had known them since they were babies.

Father had asked Snipp, Snapp, and Snurr to take Mother to the boat, and they were very proud to do this.

Early in the morning they were on the dock when the boat first whistled.

Snipp and Snapp carried the big suitcase between them. Snurr carried the small bag and held Mother's arm, just as he had seen Father do.

MOTHER hurried aboard, and the three little boys stood on the dock waving to her as the boat left shore.

“We’ll surely miss Mother,” said Snurr sadly as they started home. “But I do hope she has a fine time.”

When they got home they found Nanny stirring a cake in a big bowl at the kitchen table.

Nanny was like a second mother to the boys. She often told them that she had always known their mother.

“Good morning, Snipp, Snapp, and Snurr,” said Nanny. “How you boys grow! Are you too big to like surprises?”

“No! We’ll never be too big for surprises,” answered Snipp.

“Are you planning a surprise for us?” asked Snapp.

“No,” answered Nanny. “I had planned this cake for a surprise, but now you’ve seen it.”



They found Nanny at the kitchen table stirring a cake.

I know!" interrupted Snipp. "Let's plan a big surprise for Mother when she gets home."

"But what can it be?" asked Snapp. "You know we haven't any money."

"Let's get her a chair," said Snurr.

"She'd like that!" agreed Snipp and Snapp.

So Nanny suggested that they earn the chair by working for all the different people who would help to make it.

"My brother makes frames for chairs," she said. "Go to him and tell him what you want. I know there are many errands you can do for him. When the chair is made, you can get the cloth and I'll make the cover."

Away ran the boys to the shop of Nanny's brother. As they stepped in they took off their caps politely and said, "Good morning! We've come from your sister Nanny."



As they came in they took off their caps most politely.

WE'VE come to ask you to make a chair for us," said Snurr. "Our Mother has gone away and Nanny is taking care of us. We'd like to get a chair for Mother for a big surprise. Nanny said she'd cover it, but first we need a frame. Will you make it?"

"I will," promised Nanny's brother.

"But I haven't told you everything," said Snurr more slowly. "We want the chair, but we have no money."

Then Snapp asked, "May we work for you, while you make the frame of the chair for us? We'll be glad to do anything."

Nanny's brother agreed to let them work for him. Soon Snipp was sweeping the floor, Snapp was carrying boards to the bench to be measured and cut, while Snurr looked for nails that were the right size for the frame of the chair.



*Snipp was sweeping the floor, Snapp was carrying boards,
while Snurr looked for nails.*

THEN one morning the frame for the chair was finished.

“It’s straight and strong,” said Nanny’s brother. “That frame will last for many, many years, for I’ve used fine wood.

“There’s an old friend of mine in the shop across the street who is an upholsterer. He knows how to put springs in the chair, and how to stuff it so that it will be soft and comfortable. Why don’t you take this frame to his shop and ask him to upholster it for you, while you work for him?”

The three little boys thanked Nanny’s brother and carried the frame for the chair into the upholsterer’s shop. A smiling man in a long white coat came to meet them. Snipp, Snapp, and Snurr found it very easy to tell him about the big surprise.

“I’ll put in the very best springs I have,” he promised.



A smiling man in a long white coat came to meet them.

I'll tie them down very tightly. I'll use the best material I have to stuff the chair, too. Over it all I will put strong cloth. Then the chair will be ready for its cover. Shall I make that too?"

"No, thank you," said Snurr. "Nanny will make the cover for us — one that Mother can wash."

"A good idea," nodded the upholsterer.

"But you see we have no money," explained Snapp. "May we work for you, while you are making the chair for us? We'll be glad to do anything."

"Go into my workroom and make it neat and tidy," answered the upholsterer.

There the three little boys worked hard. They put feathers in bags. They found many pieces of cloth which they folded into neat piles. Snurr swept the floor, and then he carried out sacks full of strings and scraps.



The three little boys worked hard.

THEN one morning they saw that the chair was finished.

“Sit down in your chair and see how you like it,” said the man in the long white coat.

Snipp sat down and said, “Oh, but it is soft!”

Snapp sat down and said, “It’s very comfortable.”

But Snurr said politely, “Thank you very, very much. I’m sure Mother will like this the best of any chair she has ever had.”

The man in the white coat smiled as he said, “I think you are right.”

Then he helped the three boys put the chair on a two-wheeled, green cart, and they started down the street.

Snipp pulled the cart, Snapp held the chair in place, and Snurr ran behind the cart to keep the chair from falling off.



*Snipp pulled the cart, Snapp held the chair in place,
and Snurr ran behind.*

LET'S stop right here," said Snipp, when they were in front of a small shop. "We'll go in and try to get the cloth to cover the chair. Nanny can then begin to work on it just as soon as we get home."

The three little boys hurried into the shop. Behind the counter stood a man with black curly hair.

"Good morning," said Snipp. "Will you please show us cloth to cover a chair. The chair is to be a big surprise for our mother. She likes red very much."

"And she likes flowers," added Snapp.

"Have you cloth that has red flowers on it?" asked Snurr.

"That I have," answered the man as he held up a piece for them to see. "Here are red flowers, and other colors too. This cloth will be pretty in any room. It will wash and look like new."



“Here are red flowers, and other colors too.”

“OH, I like that!” said the three little boys in one breath.

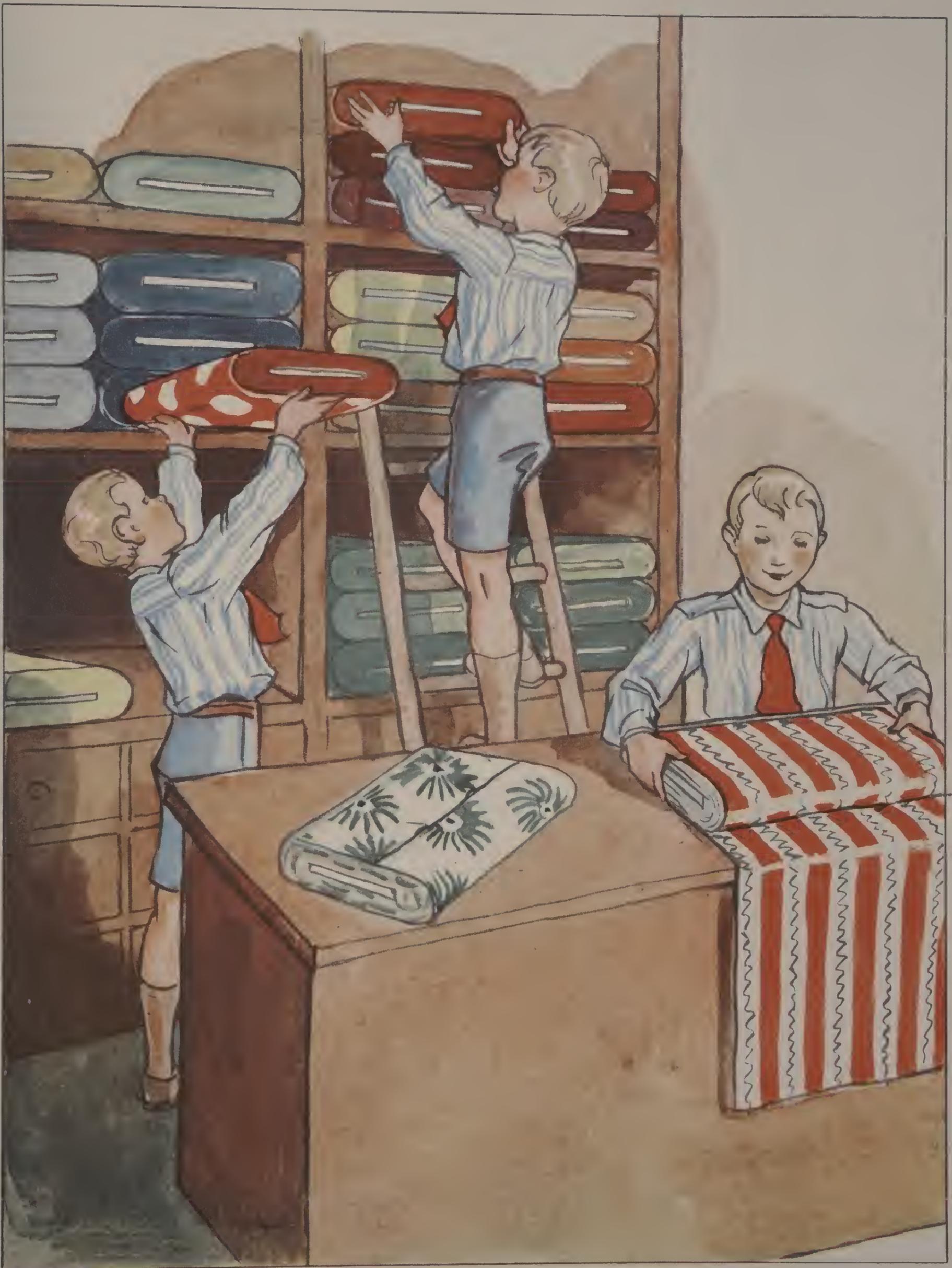
“That is just what we want, but we have no money,” said Snurr. “May we work for you to pay for the cloth? We’ll be glad to do anything. We’ll deliver packages for you all next week, if you will only let us have the cloth.”

When the man with the curly hair understood about the big surprise, he agreed. He measured the cloth, cut it, and handed the package to Snurr.

“Here you are,” said he. “You may take this package home, but hurry back! I want you to straighten these shelves.”

The three little boys hurried home with the chair and the package.

But they quickly returned to the shop to work. They folded cloth into neat creases on the bolts, and put the bolts on the shelves in straight, even rows.



They folded cloth into neat creases and put the bolts on the shelves in straight rows.

WHEN the boys came home late that afternoon they found Nanny busily sewing on the cloth with the pretty red flowers.

“The cover is all cut out, boys,” she said. “I have it nearly basted, too.”

“Do you think you can possibly have it all done when Mother gets home?” asked Snipp anxiously. “You’ll have only one week more, and I’m afraid we can’t help much. We can’t sew, and we’ve promised to deliver packages all week too.”

“Didn’t I tell you I’d make the cover?” asked Nanny. “You three boys have worked hard to earn the chair and this cloth. That’s your share in Mother’s big surprise. I’ll make the cover, for that’s my share. Of course I’ll have it done.”

Every day the next week the three little boys delivered packages, and Nanny sewed busily on the cover.



"Of course I'll have the cover done."

THE morning of the day Mother was expected home Nanny said, "Boys, the cover is finished! Let's put it on."

Ever so carefully they drew it over the chair and into place.

"Isn't it beautiful!" exclaimed Snipp.

"It does fit well," said Nanny.

"We'll put the chair in the middle of the living room," said Snapp.

"Fine!" said Snurr. "But now we must hurry to the boat to meet her."

Mother was very happy to see the three little boys.

On the way home the boys told Mother that they had a big surprise for her.

Mother was very curious but she had to wait until she got home. Then as she stepped into the living room she saw the big surprise and cried, "It's a chair! A perfectly beautiful chair!"

Nanny peeped in from the hall.



"It's a chair! A perfectly beautiful chair!"

LATER in the evening Mother made a fire in the fireplace and the three boys drew the chair before it. Then it was that Snipp told Mother how Nanny's brother had made the frame for the chair; how his friend across the street had upholstered it, and how they themselves had chosen the material for its cover.

“You see, Mother, Nanny made the cover for the chair. That's her share in the big surprise,” said Snapp. “We couldn't make the chair for you ourselves, but we could work hard each day to pay someone for the work he did in making the chair.”

Snurr added, “Everybody was very glad to help us with the big surprise.”

Mother smiled as she said softly, “I know there are many people I must thank for this big surprise, but my three big boys are the ones I thank most of all.”



"There are many people I must thank for this big surprise."





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